

Issue No. 02-06 Monthly Report Released: February 3, 2006

Commercial Fruit Utilized Production

UTAH: Utah's 2005 apple, sweet cherries and tart cherries utilized production estimates were up from 2004, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Estimates of utilized production for apricot, peaches, and pears were lower than 2004. Utilized production for 2005 was as follows: apples, 37.1 million pounds, 5.7 million pounds more than 2004; apricots, 245 tons, 45 tons less than 2004; sweet cherries, 1,750 tons, 150 tons more than 2004; tart cherries, 26.0 million pounds, 4 million pounds more than 2004; peaches, 4,420 tons, 130 tons less than 2004; and pears, 200 tons, 100 tons less than 2004. Value of production for Utah's 2005 fruit crop and change from 2005 were as follows: apples, \$10.4 million, up \$2.0 million; apricots, \$235,000 up \$58,000; sweet cherries, \$1.9 million up \$339,000; tart cherries, \$6.5 million; up \$1.7 million; peaches, \$3.4 million, up \$571,000; and pears, \$129,000, up \$11,000.

UNITED STATES: Utilized apple production for 2005 is estimated at 9.78 billion pounds, down 6 percent from the 2004 level. Utilized production for Washington and New York decreased 6 percent and 20 percent, respectively, while Michigan's utilized production increased 8 percent compared to the previous year. In New York, a spring frost during bloom, extreme heat during early summer, and heavy rains and winds during mid October reduced the 2005 crop. Below normal humidity levels in Michigan kept disease pressure low and the apple crop was ahead of normal development throughout the growing season. Utilized peach production in 2005 is estimated at 1.14 million tons, down 7 percent from the previous year and 5 percent below 2003. The California crop, accounting for 76 percent of the U.S. utilized peach production, is down 6 percent from 2004. For California, the Clingstone peach estimate is down 10 percent and the Freestone estimate is down 1 percent from 2004.

Utilized pear production for 2005 is 811,670 tons, down 7 percent from the previous year. Washington, the top producing State, utilized 400,000 tons, up 9 percent from 2004. California, the second largest producer at 200,000 tons, is down 26 percent from the previous season. Utilized pear production in Oregon, the third largest producing State, is 196,000 tons, down 7 percent from 2004.

2005 Final Crop Production Estimates

UTAH: All wheat production at 7.1 million bushels was up 21 percent from 2004, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Average yield of 48.0 bushels per acre was 4 bushels above 2004. Acres harvested was 148,000, up 16,000 acres from 2004. Winter wheat production at 6.3 million bushels was up 23 percent from the 2004 level. Winter wheat yield at 47 bushels per acre was 4 bushels above 2004. Harvested acreage of 135,000 acres was up 13 percent from 2004. Other spring wheat production at 754,000 bushels was 8 percent above 2004. Yield of 58 bushels per acre was the same as 2004. Harvested acreage of 13,000 acres was slightly above 2004. Barley production at 1.9 million bushels was 44 percent below 2004. Yield of 80.0 bushels per acre was 6 bushels below a year earlier. Harvested acres at 24,000 was 40 percent lower than 2004. Oat production at 511,000 bushels was 18 percent below 2004. Oat yield was 73 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from a year earlier. Harvested acreage for grain was 7,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2004. Corn for grain production at 2.0 million bushels was up 5 percent from the 2004 level. Corn for grain yield at 163 bushels up 5 percent from 2004. Harvested acreage for grain at 12,000 acres, remained the same as 2004. Corn silage production at 924,000 tons, yield at 22.0 tons per acre, and harvested acres at 42,000, all remained at the same levels as 2004. Alfalfa hay production at 2.2 million tons was up 5 percent from the 2004 level. The yield of 4.20 tons per acre was up 11 percent from 2004. Harvested acres at 530,000 acres was down 5 percent from 2004. Other hay production at 368,000 tons was up 8 percent from 2004. Yield at 2.3 tons was up 5 percent from a year earlier. Harvested acreage of 160,000 acres was up 3 percent from 2004. Dry edible bean production at 23,000 cwt was 9,000 cwt above 2004. Growers harvested 4,500 acres, down 300 acres from 2004. Yields averaged 500 pounds per acre, up 67 percent from a year earlier.

UNITED STATES: Crop production for 2005 and changes from 2004 are as follows: corn for grain 11.1 billion bushels, down 6 percent from the 11.8 billion bushels produced in 2004; corn silage 106 million tons, down 1 percent from 2004 level; alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures hay 75.8 million tons, slightly above 2004; all other hay 74.8 million tons, down 10 percent from 2004; dry edible beans 27.2 million cwt, up 53 percent from last year; all wheat 2.1 billion bushels, down 2 percent from 2004; barley 212 million bushels, down 24 percent from last year; oats 115 million bushels, down slightly from last year.

Sheep Inventory

UTAH: Breeding sheep inventory, including replacement lambs on January 1, 2006, was 260,000 head, an increase of 15,000 from January 1, 2005, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The all sheep and lamb inventory was 280,000 head, 10,000 head more than the previous year. Ewes for breeding one year old and older on January 1, 2006 totaled 210,000 head compared with 200,000 head on January 1, 2005. Lambs for breeding replacement, estimated at 39,000 head, was 2,000 more than last year. Rams one year old and older totaled 11,000 head, an increase of 3,000 from January 1, 2005. Market sheep and lambs were estimated at 20,000 head, down 5,000 from January 1, 2005. The 2005 lamb crop of 240,000 head was 2 percent below the previous year's total.

UNITED STATES: All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2006, totaled 6.23 million head, up 2 percent from both 2005 and 2004. The inventory began increasing in 2005 and has shown two consecutive year to year increases for the first time since 1987 and 1988. Breeding sheep inventory increased to 4.64 million head on January 1, 2006, up 2 percent from 4.53 million head on January 1, 2005. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.66 million head, were 2 percent above last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2006, totaled 1.59 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 35 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings. The 2005 lamb crop of 4.13 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004. The 2005 lambing rate was 115 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2005, up 2 percent from 2004.

Wool Production

UTAH: Wool production totaled 2.2 million pounds during 2005, down 3 percent from 2004, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Total sheep shorn during 2005, at 235,000 head, was 4 percent below the 2004 level. The 2005 average fleece weight was 9.3 pounds. The 2005 average price of wool in Utah was \$0.71 per pound, 12 cents below the 2004 price. Total value of all wool produced during 2005 was \$1.5 million dollars, a decrease of \$320,000 from 2004.

UNITED STATES: Shorn wool production in the United States during 2005 was 37.2 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.07 million head, down slightly from 2004. The average price paid for wool sold in 2005 was \$0.71 per pound for a total value of 26.3 million dollars, down 12 percent from 29.9 million dollars in 2004.

Cattle and Calf Inventory

UTAH: Cattle and calf inventory as of January 1, 2006 totaled 820,000 head, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This was down 5 percent from January 1, 2005. Beef cows, at 335,000 head, were 12,000 head less than 2005. Milk cows, at 85,000 head, were 3,000 head less than 2005. Beef cow replacement heifers, at 60,000 head, were down 5,000 head from 2005. Milk cow replacement heifers, at 45,000 head, remained the same as last year. Other heifers not intended for replacement totaled 65,000 head, 5,000 less than 2005. The January 1, 2006 inventory level of steers weighing 500 pounds or more was 105,000 head, 5,000 less than last year. Bulls weighing over 500 pounds totaled 20,000 head, down 2,000 from 2005. Calves weighing less than 500 pounds as of January 1, 2006 totaled 105,000 head, 8,000 head lower than the previous year. The 2005 calf crop of 380,000 head was down 10,000 head from 2004.

UNITED STATES: All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. Beef cows, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Milk cows, at 9.06 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Other class estimates on January 1, 2006, and the change from January 1, 2005, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, up 2 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.90 million, up 4 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.28 million, up 4 percent. Other heifers, 9.80 million, up slightly. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.9 million, up 3 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.26 million, up 2 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.6 million, up 2 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 3 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, up 2 percent. The 2005 calf crop was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2004.

Farms and Land in Farms in 2005

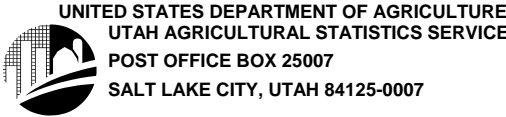
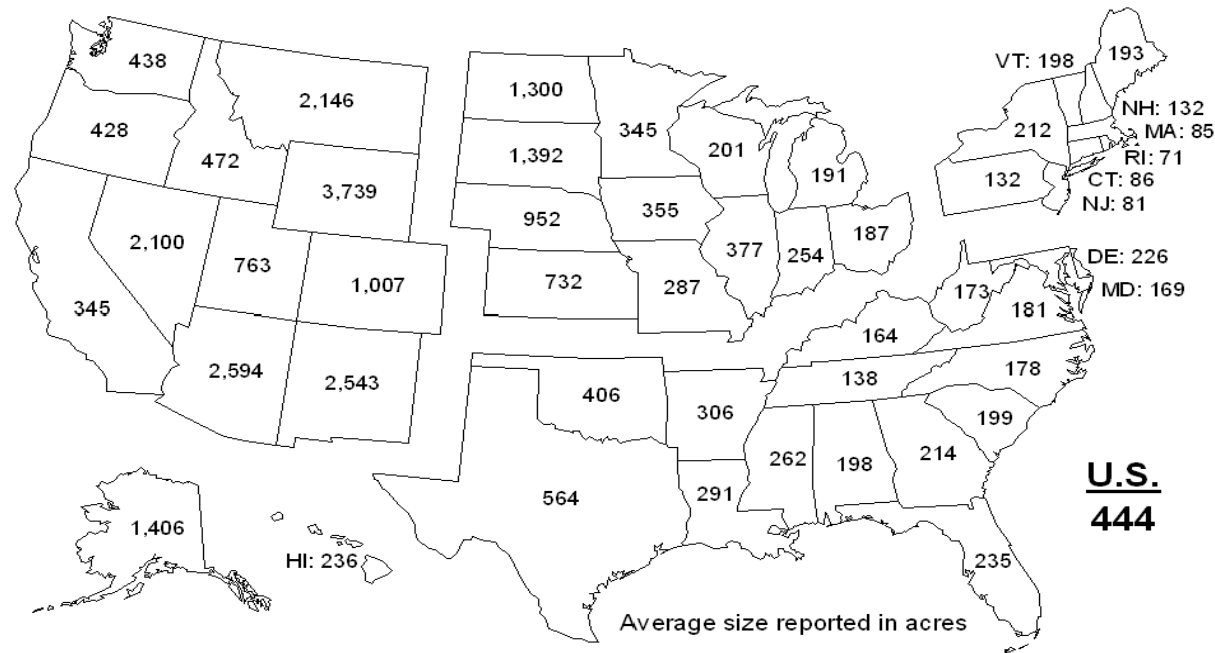
UTAH: The number of farms in Utah in 2005 is estimated at 15,200, 100 farms less than 2004, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Land in farms, estimated at 11.6 million acres, was unchanged from the previous year. The average size of farm, at 763 acres, increased 5 acres over 2004.

UNITED STATES: The number of farms in the United States in 2005 is estimated at 2.1 million, 0.6 percent fewer than in 2004. Total land in farms, at 933.4 million acres, decreased 2.9 million acres, or 0.3 percent, from 2004. The average farm size was 444 acres during 2005, an increase of one acre from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size Farm 1994-2005 ¹						
Year	Utah			United States		
	Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size Farm	Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size Farm
	Number	1,000 Acres	Acres	1,000 Farms	1,000 Acres	Acres
1994	14,500	11,200		2,198	968,845	
1995	15,000	11,400		2,196	962,515	
1996	15,000	11,400		2,191	958,675	
1997	15,000	11,600		2,191	956,010	
1998	15,000	11,600		2,192	953,765	
1999	15,500	11,600	748	2,192	947,440	432
2000	15,500	11,600	748	2,172	943,090	434
2001	15,500	11,600	757	2,149	942,070	438
2002	15,300	11,600	758	2,135	940,300	440
2003	15,300	11,600	758	2,127	938,650	441
2004	15,300	11,600	758	2,113	936,295	443
2005	15,200	11,600	763	2,101	933,400	444

¹ A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

Average Farm Size by State, 2005



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UTAH AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
POST OFFICE BOX 25007
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84125-0007

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty For Private Use \$300

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED STANDARD
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
USDA
PERMIT NO. G-38

Agricultural Prices

Utah: Mid-January 2006 prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers for alfalfa hay, and other hay were down from last month. Baled alfalfa hay was \$95.00 per ton, \$9.00 below last month and \$10.00 above last year. Other hay, at \$80.00 per ton, was down \$2.00 from December 2005, and \$5.00 above January 2005.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 112, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 3 points (2.6 percent) from December. The Crop Index is down 3 points (2.7 percent) and the Livestock Index also decreased 3 points (2.5 percent). Producers received lower commodity prices for lettuce, turkeys, eggs, and hogs. Higher prices were received for cattle, oranges, corn, and cotton. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of cattle, soybeans, corn, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of grapes, tomatoes, dairy, and cotton. Preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 1 point (0.9 percent) from January 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 118, decreased 4 points (3.3 percent) from last month but increased 2 points (1.7 percent) from January 2005.

Average Prices Received by Farmers ¹

Commodity	Utah						United States					
	Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled		Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled	
Month	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
January	2.11	(2)	85.00	95.00	75.00	80.00	2.41	2.41	94.50	95.60	73.30	79.30
February	1.96		91.00		80.00		2.31		94.00		74.20	
March	1.89		99.00		80.00		2.49		98.60		77.80	
April	2.04		92.00		80.00		2.26		105.00		81.60	
May	(2)		90.00		80.00		2.46		116.00		75.40	
June	2.10		95.00		85.00		2.57		112.00		73.60	
July	2.03		95.00		85.00		2.38		109.00		75.90	
August	2.17		90.00		85.00		2.52		109.00		74.80	
September	1.97		95.00		80.00		2.36		107.00		74.60	
October	(2)		97.00		82.00		2.41		106.00		76.50	
November	(2)		100.00		82.00		2.49		97.50		76.30	
December	(2)		104.00		82.00		2.49		97.70		78.00	

¹ January 2006 is mid-month price.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.